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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,700	10/30/2001	Krishna Seshan	ITL.0655US(P12430)	2094

21906 7590 05/08/2003

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EXAMINER

TRAN, MAI HUONG C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2818

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,700

Applicant(s)

SESHAN, KRISHNA

Examiner

Mai-Huong Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-13 and 20-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 14-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 7, 8, 18 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

Application's election without traverse of Species I (Claims 1-8 and 14-19) in Paper No. 5 drawn to a semiconductor device is acknowledged for prosecution in the subject application. Accordingly, claims 9-13 and 20-24 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Applicants have the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,591,941 to Acocella et al. in view of the remark.

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Regarding to claim 1, Acocella discloses a semiconductor device comprising external contacts 72; a metal layer 12; and a passivation layer (col. 6, lines 6-29) being located between the metal layer and the contact and including windows (col. 6, lines 14-15 and col. 12, line 33) through which the contacts extend to make electrical connections with the metal layer.

Acocella does not disclose the windows being selectively size to impart a higher current carrying capability to at least one of the external contacts than to the remaining one or more external contacts. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the windows being selectively size to impart a higher current carrying capability to at least one of the external contacts than to the remaining one or more external contacts.

Claim 2 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 3 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 4 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 5 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 6 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claims 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,591,941 to Acocella et al. in view of the remark.

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Regarding to claim 14, Acocella discloses a method usable with a semiconductor device comprising providing a passivation layer (col. 6, lines 6-29); providing windows (col. 6, lines 14-15 and col. 12, line 33) in the passivation layer; extending external contacts 72 through the window to make an electrical connection with a metal layer 12 of the semiconductor device;

Acocella does not disclose selectively sizing the windows to impart a higher current capability to at least one of the external contacts than to the remaining one or more external contacts. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to selectively size the windows to impart a higher current capability to at least one of the external contacts than to the remaining one or more external contacts.

Claim 15 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 14.

Claim 16 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 14.

Claim 17 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 14.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7, 8, 18, and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication on earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mai-Huong Tran, (703) 305-1958. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM. The examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (703) 308-4910.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7724. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Mai-Huong Tran



HOAI HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER